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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, I did not make any such promise except to state that it will be considered. On account of financial difficulties due to drought and other conditions we have not been able to implement them so far. These are very costly schemes. For instance, the four Mobile Medical Units will cost Rs. 77,600 recurring expenditure and Rs. 1,03,200 non-recurring expenditure."

Construction of a road from Mukkam to Arikkode.

* 391 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to construct a road from Mukkam in Kozhikode taluk, Malabar, to Arikkode in Ernad taluk? 9-30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" No, Sir."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether, in view of the fact that the road will be very useful for trade and purposes of communication, the Government will be pleased to consider the proposal? "

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" It may be useful, Sir. If the proposal comes from the District Board, the Government will consider it."

SRI KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" In view of the fact that there is already an old abandoned road in existence from Mukkam to Arikkode and that it can be repaired at a very comparitively low cost, may I know whether the Government will consider the necessity of repairing the road as soon as possible? "

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" Yes Sir, there is already a road up to Mukkam. If the District Board sends up a proposal to the Government to extend it, it will be considered."

The Ayurvedic dispensary at Karivallur, North Malabar.

* 392 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the amount of money that the Government have allotted for the Rural Ayurvedic dispensary at Karivallur, North Malabar, yearly and the number of patients attending this dispensary daily?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Ayurvedic dispensary at Karivallur is not one subsidised by the Government. The daily average attendance of the patients treated at the dispensary is 4 and 11 for the years 1952 and 1953, respectively."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister when this Ayurvedic dispensary at Karivallur was opened, when the doctor for this dispensary was appointed, when Ayurvedic medicines for distribution to the patients reached the dispensary and when the doctor began to give treatment? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have not got all those particulars. I understand that the medical officer joined duty on 10th December 1952."

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SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Since Ayurvedic science has been developed in Malabar so far as this State is concerned and since there is acute deficiency in medical facilities, would the Government consider the establishment of Ayurvedic hospitals in various places in the villages of the district of Malabar? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I am not sure that Ayurvedic science has developed in Malabar. It is only surviving there. There are a large number of Ayurvedic dispensaries in every district and so also in Malabar."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister for Health is aware that after the opening of the dispensary at Karivallur, for ten months there was no medicine in the dispensary and that the people who visited the dispensary had to return without medicines? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" This is a matter for the District Board."

Import of 'Songu Cholam' from Australia.

* 393 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many persons were affected by consuming 'Songu Cholam' imported from Australia which was found to contain 'Dhatura' seeds on examination;

(*b*) what was the nature of the injurious effect produced by eating it and how it happened that such stuff was allowed to be marketed;

(*c*) what measures were taken by the Government following the report of the Government Analyst; and

(*d*) what was done with the remaining stock of the cholam that was withdrawn from the market?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Sixty-eight persons were affected.

" (*b*) (i) The injurious effects produced by eating the Sorghum were giddiness, losing consciousness, symptoms of delirium in some cases, and in some other cases the affected people turned turbulent and appeared mentally deranged.

(ii) Two allotments of Australian Sorghum ex S.S. " Nordvest " and S.S. " Franta " were made by the Government of India under the basic plan, just as milo from other foreign countries or jowar from other States. There were no special or peculiar circumstances which led to the import of these stocks and they were distributed in the usual manner.

" (*c*) Telegraphic instructions were issued to the Collectors concerned to stop issues pending further orders. Detailed